

REMARKSI. Status of the claims

Claims 11-26 are pending in this application. Claims 1-5 were rejected by the Examiner; these claims have now been cancelled. Claims 6-10 had previously been cancelled. Claims 11-18 were allowed by the Examiner in the previous Office Action. Applicants have added new claims 19-26 as dependent claims based on the allowed claims. No new matter has been added by the new claims.

II. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-5 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,262,149 or under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,378,757. In this response, Applicants have cancelled claims 1-5.

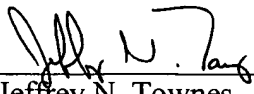
III. Conclusion

Applicants believe that this application is now in condition for allowance, and respectfully request reconsideration in view of the above amendment and remarks.

Except for issue fees payable under 37 C.F.R. §1.18, the Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any additional fees during the entire pendency of this application including fees due under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 and 1.17 which may be required, including any required extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-2380. This paragraph is intended to be a **CONSTRUCTIVE PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME** in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a)(3).

Respectfully submitted,

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